

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL GENEALOGY COLLECTION

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# Proceedings of a Reunion

## Descendents of Christian Wenger

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# Proceedings of the Unenger Family Reunion.

#### MONDAY FORENOON.

The assembly was called to order by C. G. Wenger, of Caledonia, Mich., as follows:

Brothers, Sisters and Consins:—We are gathered here together as we never have been before. I rejoice to see so many of you present, but would be glad to see many more here, even enough to fill the whole tabernacle. But before we proceed it is necessary to elect a chairman.

Eli Good, of St. Johns, Mich., was elected chairman after which C. G. Wenger read the 15th chapter of John and led in prayer. After all joined in singing "Blest be the tie that binds" George Lambert offered a prayer in the German language.

W. P. Coffman, of Elkhart, Ind., gave the address of welcome which was as follows:

Fathers, Mothers, Uncles, Annts, Brothers, Sisters, and Cousins:—When I was put upon this programme for an address of welcome. I stopped to think why it was necessary that there should be such an address. Whether it was nerely on account of custom or whether the people who came here should feel that they were unwelcome unless such an address were made. I came to the conclusion that it was largely custom. There have been in all ages different ways of manifesting welcome, and I suppose making an address has come to be the custom of people of the present time, and while there is a good deal more in a real welcome than in an address of welcome, yet it is looked upon as necessary. So many people in the world have a way of covering their lack of a genuine welcome by words which express a welcome, that sometimes the longer the expression the less of real welcome there is in the heart. So I assure you my address will be short.

I want to welcome the descendants of our fore-father, Christian Wenger, in two ways; first I want to make you all feel welcome with us here at Elkhart. I want you to feel that what we have here is yours for the time being. We want you to feel that this island is yours for this day; to feel just as much at hone as at you had paid for it, as if it belonged to you. And as far as our hones are concerned, we want you to feel the same way. But on account of the Elkhart Institute Contanencement some of us cannot accommodate as many of you as we might have under different circumstances. Nevertheless we want you to feel that our homes are open to you, and we will accommodate you as well as we can.

Another way in which I wish to welcome you is an expression of welcome into the relationship. What I mean is this: There are a number of people who I find are related to me that I never knew were in the relationship before I looked into the family history just published. To these people I want to extend a welcome into the relationship. I have no doubt there are a number of people here today who have discovered they have a great many relatives of whom they never thought before in that light. There are here today many people whom I have learned to love and respect and admire and have always held them in high esteem not knowing they were related to me. I am glad I bearned to know and esteem them before I found this out outerwise I might have considered my high regard for them parely on the ground of relationship, and mow I am very highly delighted to find that these people whom I have every reason to respect and regard for their sterling worth are related to me.

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When we picture in our minds our ancestors, we think of men and women who were strong characters, men and women who exercised influence in the community in which they lived for good, and men and women whom we may admire, respect -good honest men and women.

The question naturally arises are we upholding that character, that stability, that strength, that manhood, and that Christian confiding, trusting

spirit that was manifested in our ancestors:

I suppose it was those same good qualities, those same sterling principles that caused my great-grandtather Coffman nearly one hundred years ago, to select for his life companion a member of the Wenger family. And looking over the people who came here teday we see evidences of that firm character, the result of those lives lived in accordance to the principles of righteousness. We must not torget that a great deal of what we are we owe to the fact that we have decended from a sturdy, pious race of people.

In conclusion I want to say that I believe that when we depart from this life, when it is our time o lay down our burders and enter the world this rite, when it is our time of the word of those ancestors, and I believe beyond. I believe we will meet some of those ancestors, and I believe we will know them. And what a satisfaction it will be for us and for them if we will have lived in such a way and such a manner that we may be welcomed by them and by our heavenly Father on the other shore.

#### REPORT OF PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

We are here to give the report of the work we have done for the past three years. This committee was selected in Michigan where our last reunion was held. There are a tew things I would libe to call your attention to before I give the financial report.

No doubt some of you are wondering why this committee was appointed The committee conand how it came into existence, and what is its work.

sisted of S. P. Martin, Z. G. Wenger and C. G. Wenger I feel that first of ail I ought to make an apology.

M. D. Wenger was elected secretary but on account of ill health he was not able to attend the last assembly. We elected him first and then proceeded to elect the committee. The daity of collecting data for the family history was placed upon this committee. But since I have learned more about the records that were used in preparing the history, I find that they were private property and we have taken them into our own hands. I would be glad if we cer'd in some way have those records transferred into The possession of the relationship. I have beamed that J. G. Wenger commenced gathering the history as early as 1822 and consin the Wenger. of lowa, commenced also as early. On account of press of burness J. G. Wenger afterwards turned over his records to M. D. Wenger working on the records until he was called to the beyond and then it devolved upon this committee to see that some one would be appointed to his place as recording secretary. But previous to this time the committee had not done anything. It had nothered as tew records in the immediate neighborhous. We felt timid because convend on our minds that we had not properly to sted 1 G and M. D. Wer e and I felt that I had no becomes with this work. Still we enclosed up a few records in the immediate to achievrhood.

In last year's meeting we discovered that we are sent red through the United States and Canada. We found sense who were very en husiastic and who gathered many records and sent them in On the other hand we

found some who did not take any interest in the work

Some of you perhaps wonder how it came about that these remions

Some years ago it occurred to us who have a Michael that during the summer it might be very pleasant to get tog their and enjoy a remion And then we began to think that we would be alid if we could meet the whole family. Some of us had not met for years and years some of us had seen each other only once or twice. I wondered why it was that wo must be so separated and so indifferent that we had together the ties of friendship and love that once existed between us. It brought back the love between us that exists in well regulated families and to that end we had the reunion of 1894. I believe the whole family was authoral together there, and if ever I enjoyed anything I enjoyed that.



Then came the thought how enjoyable it would be if we could gather together the descendants of Christian Wenger, who came to America in 1727. From that time on the reunion was planned, and invitations were circulated. We did not reach all the relation but we reached a number in Pennsylvania and other states. There was a young man who was returning tron. California who spent seventeen dollars extra in order to attend that reunion. He said he did not regret it, he was well repaid.

In getting up this record, I can sympathize with consin Joe Wenger, and our departed coasin M. D. Wenger. We would write a letter a-sing for into tration asting for the names of the children, when they were look, who they married, etc. The answer, if it ever came at all, very often had only one of the questions answered. Thus we had to write and rewrite in only to get the information we needed. And some answers we could zet get at all.

Ferleys if we know what it cost to get up this book we will appreciate

it a little more

We have eight hundred copies printed, 260 pages each. We have three styles.

After the sanging of the Doxology the noon recess was taken

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Song "What a Friend We Have in Josas." Scripture Re aling [1 John 1, by John Shank, of South English, Ia Prayer by Simon Martin Sang "Josus Lovic of My Soul."

#### SHORT TALKS ON THE LIVES OF DEPARTED MEMBERS.

I am very well acquainted with Prother Freeland, who located in Kent County, Michigan, in 1805. He moved on a hundred acros of land, cultivated it and made himself a home. He was a good neighbor and a good Christian, a citizen respected among all classes of people, a good church member. In his deporture at of life he was a man of honor, one to be trusted in business. He was a triend of mine. I have a very tender recollection of Cousin Freeland,—S. Martin.

Cousin Heavy P. Witmer and bis wite who were with us three years ago took an active interest in the remions. We found him very helpful to us. I remainder well when he came into th State of Michigan thatput to years ago. They were industrious people. They always neclected with all their efforts they could be useful problems tools cause and to bring in those who were only. They we have been at hand to help industrious problems the at hand to help in making the northing was too much for the not help the second of the with them around the table with their children, when gathered too the with them around the table with their children, when they were yet of the small, and but camber the orderly way they conduct the trade in mily set, which is very worthy of indication. They never nearestable services of conduct twist one on the internet things to benefit their children the world it was right. They taught them great respect to its Bible and the benefit of they have accurated this life and goes to their results the last goes to their results and the lease of God. They have accurated this life and goes to their results the last returner. C. G. Wenger

Was the daughter of Christian Weiner and sister of M. D. Weiner. She was married to Plass Martin who lived in this community and race i a far ify or chiliten. I remember her life was orderly, the effect of the teaching of her parents. She was a young hely worthy for young hales to indiate. I never knew her to energe in anything that was not take, that would bring regrowth upon a tair name or upon Christ.

We nield Bowman had the respect of all the community so far as be was known. As a Christian I do not know of a man in our community when was more devoted to his faith than ne. As a citizen he had every one's respect. He was industrious, raised a large family of children, all of whom lived to grow up to years of accountability. Financially he had one well. His bealth failed about two years ago. He died about a year ago.

"William Burkey, 4 know a little something of his boy-hood. I used to say to tayself be will make a noble man. I remember once when he was



a little boy in school, one day he was hurt quite badly but he never winced. He had that grit that even pain would not make him wince.—Eli Good.

M. D. Wenger,—I did not have the privilege of his intimate acquaintance especially but I knew of him twenty-four years ago when we moved to Elkhart. While I did not have as intimate acquaintance with him as some who art here, yet I always knew him as a very tender, kind-hearted man; a man who had the welfare of his children, and others in his community in his heart. I remember especially one undertaking of his. He lived closed to the Pleasant Plain school house. He was very much interested in the young people in that neighborhood and started a Sunday school. In spite of circumstances that were very discouraging he kept on with the work in order that some good might be done. I have every reason to believe that his life was holy and pure and worthy of imitation. I believe there was no more consciencious man with whom I was acquainted than he. That is the one thing in his life that appealed to me more than anything else, his extreme conscienciousness.—W. P. Cofman

About forty-five years ago I was in this county, I was well acquainted with him. After I went home from here, Brother Wenger was sick for a long time. We used to correspond with each other. On his sick bea he wrote me long letters and mentioned a good many things we ought to do One that he wrote me contained two sheets of toolscap, written on four pages. While there was nothing particularly preaching in it, it was all good sound doctrine. I believe that from the very beginning he was a very consciencious boy and grew up that way to be a man. I have all regards for M. D. Wenger.—Isaac G. Wenger.

We were probable nearly of the same age but I remember when he was stricken down through. I think, some spinal affect, laid up for a year. We used to go there Smalays to entertain him. He was lonesome and was confined to his hed for some time, and afterwards able to sit up. He never got has proper shape.

Alterwards we kept up a correspondence. As long as we were single more we never forgot to correspond. He used to write me long letters and in them he used to give good advice. I kept those betters sarred a good many years. I could probably find some of them yet. The conversations and correspondence I had with him are swest to me. I have all regards for M. D. Wengors, C. G. Wenger,

J. S. Coffman is a man whose influence is stamped upon the church are consumity. I, was well acquainted with him. He came to us several times on his examplicing tours, and in this way I believe to sid more than any other man for the Menmonite church. The Menmonite church was rather weak in this kind of work. He was about the first one who started out. The first time of ever saw men he came to Missouri en e reip of that kind. He kept coming and afterwards had quite a market et comverts. As far as I show him he was an honest unapidit and came t man for the came of God. J. G. Wenger.

In his different evangelizing tours, I come in close touch with him in a possibility As a boy. I well remember when I was about fourthen years old, on one of his evangelizing tours he come to us. Some of his words I will never torget. "As far as you know what is right do it." I have many tender memories of his life and I am sure many others: in testify to the same things. J. R. Shank.

I for one can testify for J. C. Coffman, I remember very vividly when he used to come to Michigan to preach for us. During the moetings I held there I became converted. He would frequently visit at our-house and while we had a large family of children, they all remember his kindness. After being there once he could make them all, from the youngest to the oldest and manifested a love that we never could forget. Is, and Wenger.

During the last few years of his life he held meetings at the Yeilow Crock church. He stayed with us while the meetings lasted. During the day time he worked hard, getting out the Sunday School lessons for the quarter, and during the night he prayed for lost sails. About that time his health failed. He was so devoted to his work that he wore himself



out. As long as I have a memory I will remember J. S. Coffman. He was more like a brother than a cousin. He was very instrumental in my conversion—Jonas Christophel.

You may think it strange for me to rise to speak of my brother, J. S. Coffman, but I feel pressed on this occasion to say a few words. Those who were speaking were speaking mainly of his later years. When I was a small boy it was my privilege to have J. S. Coffman to sleep with and at my earliest recollections, he would neatly tuck me into bed and then would step back in humble prayer to his God. It was not only in his later years that he gave his heart to God but it was in his young years, and it reads it was his soul's delight to speak to young people and older ones as well of their soul's salvation, and it secencel his greatest concern from a young man until his death.—Daniel Coffman.

I never heard Brother Coffman speak but a few times, but as I look back in memory of kim, he retainds me of the profet Jeremiah. It seems he was just on fire for God and Christ.—Ell Good.

We were speaking of the leve J. S. Coffman had for children. I want to tell you it is the children we want to remember. These little ones will soon grow up. The world is calling for them, evil is calling for them, and we cannot be too careful to keep our hands on them. Let us look back in the Eile and remember what God said to David. "David, if you walk uprightly before me and leep my words, you shall not fail to have a son to reign in your place before me." And he had a son to reign. Then God spoke to Solomor, if you walk uprightly before me, you shall not fail to have a son to reign in your stead before me. But there came a time when Solomor, forsook the Lord. Then God spoke to him: "Solomor, forsook the Lord. Then God spoke to him: "Solomor, because you have forsaken me, your king fom shall be divided, yet for your father David's sake, it shall not be done during your life." Our sens and our daughters mist suffer for the sins we have committed.—C. G. Wenger.

#### EXPLANATORY REMARKS ON THE WENGER HISTORY.

Joseph H. Weitzer, South English, Iowa

Some teache are born orators; others become orators by education, and practice: while I your unworthy servant, am unfortunate in both of these respects. Therefore, may pen is my greatest defence. I am indeed glad to need with the dear Wenger tamily. I am glad that so many of us are permitted to tell the story of our noble ancestors, who braved the datagers of emigrating to America. And especially am I glad that they purel, and for us the religious liberties that now surround us. Our ancesters were an humble, industrices, and law-abiding people. They were in touch with the Holy Spirt. Hence they longed for the country that pror ised them religious liberty. They found its they practiced it throughout their lives; the reward of which will be given them within the Pecciy Gates. I now ask all of you who are thus as empled to tell us how, O, low can we ever he that it enough to our one stors for these precious gifts, and for the timely religious advice they give us? Although we did not always heed it. yet I wetture to say that it we had our time to live over again, and knowing the value of advice as we do now we would heartily accept it. I will here ask a question of this assembly. Did any of you ever for one moment think of what our condition would have been if our ancestors would have remained in that foreign country? Please think on these things, and may they be indelibly stamped upon every heart

This is our second reunion of the Wenger decembents, and we are happy to me r with von. We are gird to know that the very great majority of the Wenger lineages are a fine people. In tast we are proud of them Your unworthy servant has traveled in thirty two States, besides Canada. He brais the Wengers from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from Canada to the arid south, some, however, of whose ancestors emigrated to America in later years than did our forelather; these we are not able to link to our

history
All names have a source. History informs as that the name Wenger originated from a range of mountains found in Switzerland bearing our family name. They are termed the "Wenger Alps," spoken of as being lamons for their scenic views, at its with a great degree of satisfaction that



we note this prominent recognition, and memorial of our name in the birth

place of those remote ancestors.

Much history could be produced in this, our lineage; but for the present I forbear. As you will please find all that is known in this respect in the Wenger history which is now at your service. In this book we present the history of a plain, industrious, thritty, upright and christian people. We present the history of an ancestry of whom we can justly be proud to honor and respect. And while our ancestors were a Christian and law-abiding people, we sincercly hope that their posterity may think their lives worthy of initiation; and may we aspire to evrything that is worthy, and honorable, and good, and may we never forsake the virtues of the Fathers, and bring shame and reproach upon an honored name. But may we look forward and onward and upward, submitting ourselves to the will of the Lord, and finally all have our manés recorded in the great Book of Eternal life, which is of far greater value than to have them in the Wenger history.

In adition I would say that I had a preasant visit with some of the relatives of Elkhart County thirty-nine years ago, and I am very glad indeed to meet with them again. I was born and raised at Edom. Rockingham County, Virginia, and have fixed at South English, Koshak County, Iowa, for forty-two years, the particulars of which you will find at the Wenger History

by turning to No. 89 or page 56.

After the death of Martin D. Wenger, of this place, the M. S. S. for the Wenger History fell into my hand for completion. The history is therefore submitted to you in the language and sentiments found in the introductory remarks in the front pages of our history.

Joseph H. Wenger placed on exhibition the old clock that belongs to

the Wonger family which is fully described in the family history.

#### SOCIABILITY.

C. G. Wenger, Caledonia, M.ch.

Brothers, Friends and Cousins,—As I rise before you I feel quite a little embarassed and nervous. This is so broad a question and deep that I hardly know how to approach it. To be kindly affectioned towards our fellow men means something. If we study the Bible we seen find out we are to love our fellowmen as ourselves and do for them what we would do for ourselves. Treat them just as sociable as we would like to be treated. Suppose you came on this ground a stranger and we would treat a cold shoulder, you would feel that the Wengers are not very sociable people. You would feel that you are hardly wanted here. You would feel like the lady who moved to Grand Rapids. There was no church there of her own raith but she felt that she would like to go to church somewhere. So one Sunday morning she weat to a certain church. She was shown to a back see, and after the services she passed out unnoticed both by minister and congregation. The hext Sunday she tried it again at a different place. She was treated no letter. During the week she attended a sewing circle, and there she related there experience. One lady said, "We li, you try it at our church and see it you will like a there." She did so. One after another sister shook hands with her and my tell as a first words said, "To you think I did not feel like going back there again." No, I made my home among these people and tried to be a Christian, they were so interested in my salvatjon."

We who have experienced things of this kind appreciate real sociability If we have never been away from our relations we do not know what it

means to be out in the cold world.

To be really sociably inclined means semething. It has more of a bening on our influence than many of us think, than most of us have any idea. I want to say something concerning our own individual homes. The edge etof this address is to help us on to a better life. It one does nothing more than to make a living in this world. I consider his fite a failure. It I do nothing more than make a living for my wite and children, I will be but little remembered even by them. If I cannot be the means of making this world a little better, or elevate some sond, or saving some one, my life is so much a failure that no one teels that I have been of some use to them If I could benefit no one here by my life I would think that possibly doe could not use me in the world to come. I believe our lives ought to be pleasing to to God, that they ought to be an influence for good to some one



qualifications are so meager that we would be helpful to no one. We sometimes feel that all other Christians are above us. I want to say that there is no one who is so weak or has so few talents but who can be helpful to some one. You know the poor widow who only had two mites. She gave them and it was counted more than the treasure that the rich gave, because she had made a sacrifice, the others just gave of their abundance. I am afraid that this is the way that the most of as give, we give of our abundance and do not sacrifice.

There was something said today about the children. If we want to make this world better, if we want to do a great deal of good in this world, we will law to begin with the children. And upon the mothers of our land depend a great deal the norals and the Christian influence that we will have. They have a wonderful influence. O you nothers! You should use your every effort for the children in your arms, you should should use your every effort for the children in your arms, you should prine characters. There are few of us who realize that we are helping to form the characters of these little ones as young as we do. We are hardly willing to admit that the three-year-old has a memory that will last. The younger we helpin the some we can memorize.

I remember when a boy of seeing a mother place a little child just able to walk, to the trible. She said to the child, "Now you must be good, rather is going to talk to the good man in Leaven." The child was just as quiet as any one around the teble. I can never forget what mothers can do that their children may learn to rever use God.

How patient and tender we ought to be with the little ones. How often how glacily would be recall those words it we could. How often have fathers and mothers been sorry for what they have said or done toward their children. Let us not only be sorry for what we have said or done toward their children. Let us not only be sorry for what we have said or done, but let us try to make it right to them, let us try to set an example for them to follow. How otten children are so treated by their parents that they long for the time when they can leave home. But if they knew what it means to have mother to cook for them, to wash and iron and sew, and the countless things only a mother can do for a child, they would love and appreciate their home more. Young man or woman, appreciate your home. You may think sometimes father and mother are a little severe. Reverence them for what they are doing, you will never be sorry.

We may do the very best we know how to so and still make a failure. but it is your duty and my duty to study our chadren's characters to learn how to treat them so they will love their home, their country, their God. I do not believe there is a child in the neighborhood who will go wrong if he receives the proper treatment, it the proper influence is about him. While there are many sons and daughters of plous people who have gone wrong, it is because the proper influence has been withheld from that one, Teach the child the way he should go and when he is old he will not as wrong. I do not believe the child will go arong if we get the proper inthe ence around it. It is our duty to find out here to treat them. Sometimes people say I have done everything I has y how to do and yet, they have gone astray. If one of our children to astray I must blume ourselves. We have done everything we knew how to do, but we did not know how to treat them. One of the most important things is to hold their confidence so they have implicit trust in us. If the test'er can get the confidence of the children and make them love her no neather how projudiced the parents may be against that teacher, if the claid to a home and tells how much be likes that teacher and shows how deeply appressed he is in his work, the parents cannot help but be won over.

Let us remember the children. But some of you say your nemory is so poor you cannot remember so met y. Thet may be true, but you can cultivate your memory no matter how pose it is. When once you have the confidence of the children, it will not be long until you will have the confidence of the parents also. When you have gained the confidence of the people you can then go to work. But we must be carful how we go to work. If we go at people with a club or a lange, we cannot expect to accomplish very much for them. Good words and lind deeds will always succeed.

I believe in the power of God, yet God expects us to do something. I believe that God will direct us in all cur ways yet at the same time he



has given to us good common sense and he expects us to use it. If you had all the provisions in the cellar you could use for a year and would not go to work to prepare it, your bringer would not be satisfied. Just so if we do not make use of the talents God has given us, we will never amount to very much.

We live in this world to accomplish something and if we say too much about our weakness and inability to do something, we dishonor God who put us here to work for Him. Ah that I am and do is not me, not the result of my own strength, but it is done through the power of Christ, who

strengthens me.

Song-"Holy Spirit Faithful Guid ."

Song-"All Praise to Him Who Reigns Above."

#### EDUCATION.

Eli Good, St. Johns, Mich.

Education is a very important thing in our lives. It was an important thing in our grandfathers' mays. When I task of education I do not simply mean book learning, but the broadest and the most useful education that any one can have that is to be fatted for the life work which he is going to do. Times have been wonderfully changed in these last few years. In the last few years the cities have been brought to the country. We have now the rural free delivery; the telephone is another feature that has brought the city to our doors. The daily newspapers bring us the market reports and every kind of information. We need to prepare our boys and girls for the battle of life. The excuse is made that by educating we just give the rascal a chance to do more mischief. It is true that it a man is going to be a scoundrel, an education will make him more of a scoundrel, But it he is going to be a good man and you give him an education he is going to be the premoter of better morals. We want to teach them the richness of truth. It you leave that out you spoil the boy. We want to teach them right principles. We want them to grow up men and women who will appreciate the liberty God has given to man. We want them to know where liberty ends and decase begins. When you close the subon-keeper's door on Sunday he thinks his liberty is abused. But we have the right to expect the liberty of protecting our boys.

One thing that I regret is that in our public schools curriculum the word of Gol is left our as much as it is. So no of the greatest pieces of literature that can be read are found in the Bible. We find some people who tell us to take Shakespeare. Scott find those writers and you can study them days and years and not fathout the depths, but I assure you that you can take that word of Gol and study it for years and you will not fathout the depths. In some future day these will come an hour when you are plunged into a deep trial and you think the whole word is turned against you and then the word of Gol come sout with a depth and grandeer you never these before. When we cancet a child we want to imprine into his heart that truth is truth and that what is averag is wrong, positively wrong. In charature a child both porents and it where are great tractors which we cannot pass by. We must set a node example before him, noble examples of home by. You may think year like is voiled from the little ones but they will lathout your inmost character. And so the public school teacher should be morally pure. He needs to be noble, maright. He needs to have a true heart. The child will find our last what the teacher is, it is necessary not only that our public life for the true line, the little one will discover it.

We have great need of training because there are so many factors coming into the life of every individual that we need a certain amount of training. I do not want to advocate to you the idea that every one must have a college training. I do not know that it is necessary to spend so much time in college training unless you wish to speciaize. But the real training should be to become a good reader, to read well. It has been my experience in work that the papil who reads postly is poor in everything else. She does not tead correctly, skims over the work, and the result is that she does not take in the thought. And so in the first place it is necessary to be a good reader. Today the daily new-paper is a factor in our lives as it never has been before. The tarmer gets it every day. Pirst is the crop reports. The child must have an education that will teach



him how to understand that. I believe in letting the little folks go to the

market even if they do make mistakes. Send them again.

Another feature we should study and that is the affairs of our government and its relation to foreign nations. We are in a time when history is made in a day, and it is a time when the history of today is a tulfillment of prophecy. It is now merely the fulfillment of the teachings of the early prophets.

We must compete with the world, and the child who is to be a strong man or woman in the church needs to be educated. The world is getting the finest education for her children that she can, and if so then we must

educate the young of our church.

Some years ago the subject of printing came up in our Conference. Some objected to it. One old brother got up and said, "The world is printing today and we must print," and the world is educating today and we must educate

We want to educate our children that they may be able to cope with the world. When the world did not educate the church did not need to

educate.

Is it not a fact that today you and I and every one independent of the ministry, independent of the ministration from the pulpit, take up the word of God? We open the leaves, we read, and when we read we form our own judgments. And do you know there is a vast difference in forming our judgments upon ignorance and forming our judgments upon intelligence? And when we can take those statements of the Bible and go back nineteen hundred years and jut ourselves right into the customs of the time of Christ and can then compare that time with the present, and can enlarge upon it as the Holy Stirit gives aid, we are in a position to much better apprecia e and understand the Bible.

It is just a few days until these boys will take our places in the church, in the pulpit, in the home circle, and we want to put the best means into

their hands.

Do not educate them with cherp dime novels in the house. Have the best literature. Po you know why they are so often led away? Our common school system is some of the fault. The Bible is almost wholly neglected in the common schools, and as long as they do that you and I must read the Bible with the children in the home. We can interest them and when once they are really interested, it is quite easy to keep out the cherp nevel.

We want to keep out the cheap trasky stories that defile noble manhood, that warp their judgments, their morals, their hearts, and weakens their soul. We want to take that cut of their hands. We must watch, watch closely. Take care of the trashy story-papers that come to the house. If we educate those children with the right things it is well and noble to do so. We want to interest them. Bring in things of science they never

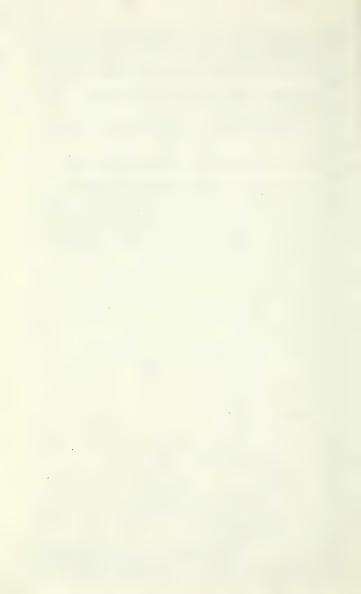
thought of and let their stock

Tell the little one about the separation of light into different colors Take a three-cornered rices of glass and let just a little strenk of light come down through a hole in the roof and strike that piece of giass. with a black surface behind it, and the ray of light will be separated into seven different colors. That is God's secret. Let the children study God's secrets. So many of God's noble secrets have been reveiled to us beguse some boy has been prying into them. Anything that is the noble work of God cannot rain the little child, it will never injure him. If you can get him to study the things of God, the secrets He has for us to learn. when it comes to the dime novel, he will be better occupied

Give them nosic, give them art. What is art. It is merely studying nature. It is art that has made this island so be nutiful. Man has come in here and made it an enjoyable place. Let them know something about the printing press, the world beyond. The devil is trying his best to interest our children as they go out into the world. He is trying with all the powers he has to counteract God's work. Let us help God to reveal

His secrets to these little children

One of God's is that there is a large ocean, and that beyond ber of people who do not live as we do. They this ocean is a ples that we have, but if you take the religion have not the a in the waks of this religion comes civilization, of Jesus Christ then they become noble and true men. They tell us these people are



deceitful but after they get a knowledge of the true God, of our ways, of

the ways of right and of truth, they become noble men and women.

We want to teach the child how our government is run; that our government is based upon the libble to a great extent, that there are principles in out government broader and grander than war. Let us teach our children that when they grow up to cope with the world they may know what these things are.

I remember a boy who once came to school to me. It seemed as if the very wicked one was in his heart. But I noticed that he would catch flies and pick them to pieces. I thought at first it was simply meanness, but I found he was trying to find out how they were made. I gave him a magnifying glass and he became interested. That boy was discovering the secrets of God's nature. You cannot put a scaure peg in a tound hole, you must first make it to fit. That is just what we are trying to do with our children when we try to keep them back from discovering God's secrets, they will be curried to the other extreme.

The greatest success in life is to do the noblest thing, is to do the greatest good to our followmen, and to make the noblest characters of our sons and daughters that when they become men and women they will be

able to stand.

Edna Kent—Essay. Flossie Wenger—Recitation. Bernice Good—Song. Lizzie Wenger—Recitation. Song—"Am I a Soldier of the Cross."

#### TUESDAY FORENOON.

A stenographer not being present on Tuesday, only a partial report can be given.

In the forenoon George Lambert, of Eikhart, Inci., gave a splendid address on Temperance, which was also ably discussed by others present. Mrs. Incz Klalm, of Clarksville, Mich., then read the following essay on the same subject:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen.--1 do not wish to say that our programme containtee was unwise but 1 ferr 1 will have to say that they acted unwisely on this soint of asking me to discuss this weighty subject after it has thus been ably handled by one so worthy as Mr. Lambert.

I was indeed perplexed when I found nevself placed on the programme in this capacity, altho I am always interested in the promotion of temperance. As leader of a discussion always seems to me an awkward place for one not especially gitted as an impromptu specifier, for it allows small field for previous preparation, yet I have had enough experience as a member of programme committees to not wish to disappoint this committee who have had in view. I believe, to make this meeting one of puttant improvement and betterment as well as pleasure.

Having thought that Mr Laurent would present the subject from many sides (as he has) I have taken it upon myself to limit tayself quite closely and leave with you my idea of "What a Young Woman Cua by to Promote the Cause of Temperance," with such other thoughts as any court to me as I speak or which may be awarened by the discussion we have just heard.

What a broad subject this se? What do we mean by "Temperature?" when are admonished, "Be ye temperate in all thines," and some one has even advised, "Pe abstinate in youth that you may be temperate in age,"

Temperance is a word of Latin origin and means noderation. In its widest sense it includes habitual moderation in regret to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions; alst fin new from all excessions indulgence, or the use of anything incurious to morel or physical well-

being. It even includes moderation in mental indulgence,

I certainly believe we are living in the greatest age our country has to live. It seems to me an use of intemperance in all things. Society is immoderate in its demands mean the people. Why come of us are even intemperance about such a good thing as work. People are either soilly overworked or else have no definate employment at all. Not so many years ago but, year, my older consinus, all remember your homes were with out such necessary things as sewing machines even. The sewing for years.



large families was all done at home and by hand. This is only one instance of many. With all our devices to lighten labor and our many conveniences, we find the majority of housewives busy from morning till night. This is especially true on the farms. Just question yourselves, my older friends, and ascertain it you do not work as hard or harder than you did twenty-live years ago, that is, it you are able. If you think about it you will discover that it is nothing more or less than intemperance or undue inchilgence in some form or other which brings about this condition of life.

Then we are intemperate in what ought to be our most pleasurable experiences. We take an excursion or outing when we are saily in need of rest and we exert ourselves so much that we return exhausted rather

than recuperated.

But intemperance, in its most commonly accepted meaning applies to moderation or abstinance in the use of alcoholic beverages. This, I feei sure is the topic our committee meant that we should discuss It bears a most vital relation to our national prosperity. Intemperance, in this sense, is the greatest evil of our time. It is well the subject is brought for discussion before assemblies of such honest persons as you. It cannot but be productive of some good. I am not political enough to offer any solution for the great problem but it is my desire that you may know I would like to see the liquor traffic prohibited throughout our land. And right here I will quote from an avowed republican, a good man, famed in the educational world and especially in Michigan, Hon. H. R. Pattengil, of Lansing. This observation appeared in the editorials of a recent issue of his paper, "The Moderator-Topics." It heartened me and makes me bolder in advocating prohibition:

"North Dakota has had state prohibition for several years. In Minnesota-there is whiskey galore. A narrow river divides the states. Wahpeton, Fargo and Grand Forks are fine Dakota towns, each better, larger and thriftier than the Minnesota towns opposite. That may be too narrow a premise on which to buse a conclusion, but it certainly shows very plainly that whiskey and saloons can not make thriving towns nor prohibition to

cause grass to grow in the streets.

All I can do in endeavoring to bring about a solution of this problem is at every opportunity to voice the prayerful sentiment of this little poem;

"Cod give us men a time like this demands, Great hearts, strong minds, true faith and ready hands, Men whom the list of office can not spoil. Men whom the spoils of office can not lany; Men who possess opinion and a will.

Men who have courage and who will not lie; Tail men, suncrowned, who stand above the fog. In public duty and in private thinking."

But I have not yet come to the part of a young woman in the premotion of temperance as I said I would treat. Now, again, I do not consider myself folitical enough to estimate the good that might be done if we were allowed the ballot. It is with me a great question. It would involve family relations to a certain extent. But were that the case I would urge my girl friends here to its proper use to promote the good cause.

Woman is semetimes given the pleasing appellation, "The power behind that throne." How can we be that power in this case? I believe our attitude may influence young near to temperature or intemperature. We can be especially careful never to accept the company of young near who are known to indulge in strong drink at all. We will then influence not only them but our own brothers as well. It only all young women acted this in the matter they would soon do an estimable amount of good. Boys and young men would realize that their opportunities to win "fair lady" would be only in proportion to their nobility—and nobility never goes hand-in-hand with intemperature.

Then we can avoid accepting as treats from young men such things as as "root beer" or even seeing a pleasant harmless betweenge poured from a bottle. Should it ever fall to our lot to be entertained where wine is served at dinner we can quietly turn our glass and thus cast another bit of influence in the right direction. We can aid all temperance movements by whatever talent or means we may have at our command. Sometimes, even words wisely and prayerfully spoken carry weight. Some of us may even find it



our life-work to endeavor to lift those who have already fallen by this curse.

If any of you, like myself, have young children to deal with in school, or otherwise, I believe you and I could sow some seeds in fertile soil by a wise and judicious use of temperance stories and memory gems. It is nevertheless, a very delicate subject to handle in school. I believe we

ought to impress that safety lies only in total abstinence.

Now, I feel that I have spoken long enough. I hope that I may have add something that will awaken thought and be productive of some little good at least I hope that someone cise who has this subject to discuss may give us a little of the history of temperance movements and show us what progress we have made in this direction that we may not be disheartened but encouraged each to greater effort. This thought, for investigation, has just occurred to me or perhaps I should have grade some effort to give it to you myself. At present I feel just as if I would like to make research.

#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON.

In the afternoon Allan Freeland, of Grand Rapids, Mich., gave an interesting talk on "Education," comparing the advantages of the present with those of the past, after which Ida M. Wenger, of Caledonia, Mich., read an essay as follows:

How wonderful a being is man when viewed in the light of his achievements? It is in the record of these, that we find the evidence of his power

and the credentials of his glory.

Man's grand distinction is his intellect—his mental capacity. It is this which renders him highly and peculiarly responsible to his creator. The cultivacion of this intellect is a great part of near's education and the great object of an education is the enlargement of the soul and to fill the mind with noble contemplations thus furnishing a refined pleasure.

Education begins in the home. Tis there we receive our first and lasting impressions of right and wrong. To we may wander from home and early surroundings and mingle with the toil and strife of the world our thoughts will revert to that loved spot of early days and we will be guided by the teachings of childhood. How necessary then that our home

should be a place of truth's teachings?

Our forefather's first task after they landed on American soil was to establish a rude home in the wilderness. They sought to have it a model of neatness in its simplicity. Their evenings were spent around the open fire-place where they would repeat tales of adventure and the Bible truths to their children. Today, too often we find the children in the streets. learning things which ought never to reach the ears of a child while the parents are engaged in business cares and have not time to attend to the moral education of their children. Euch generation is expected to step higher in the world's progress and shorten the ladder which leads to the ultimate perfection. To do this each generation must bring forth better institutions of learning. Our ancestors less not the chance of learning as we have today, altho as soon as possible after they settled in new territory they constructed a log cubin for a school and for public worship. The school lasted but few months in a year and each scholar had to pay for attending, so we see the poorer class were not given an even chance with while today we have the common school for all classes of people. How much more then should we who have so many advantages strive to obtain an education and put forth all our energies in building a good character and living noble lives, thus making the world a little better for our having lived!

After a few short talks by a number of those present a business session was held and the following business was transacted.

It was decided that the publication conmittee should stand as at present constituted till the next reunion.

A committee was appointed to select time and pince and arrange a programme for the next remion. The following were appointed: W. P. Coffman, Elkhart, Ind.; C. G. Wenger, Caledonia, Mich., Jonas G. Wenger, Kittman, O.; A. D. Wenger, Millersville, Pa.; Joseph Cressman, Breshm, Ont.; Homer C. Wenger, South Enalish, Ia.; Lewis Wenger, Versilles, Mo.; Joseph Schroch, Newton, Kan.; L. J. H. ttwaie, Harrisburg, Va. This com-



mittee is to issue javitations and give notice at least six months previous . to the time selected; also appoint some one to call the meeting to order.

It was also decided to publish the proceedings of this reunion in full as far as possible, and that all who wish a copy should send a self-addressed and stamped envelope to C. G. Wenger, Caledonia, Mich.

Closing remarks were made by C. G. Wenger, Caledonia, Mich., and Jacob Christophel, Southwest, Ind.

Following are the names of those who were present at the reunion and registered:

Berkey, Mrs. Clara, Osceofa, Ind. Berliey, Mrs. Daniel, Osceela, Ind. Betkey, Jacob K., Osceola, Ind. Berkey, Mattie, Osceola, Ind. Berkey, Mary, Osecola, Ind Blocher, Mrs. Amanda, Wakarusa, Ind Blocher, John M., Wakarusa, Ind. Blosser, A. P., Goshen, Ind. Blesser, Ciara A., Nappanee, Ind. Blosser, Harriet, Nappanee, Ind. Blosser, J. N., Nappance, Ind. Blosser, Sadie A. Geshen, Ind. Bowman, Mrs. Barbara, Middleville. Mich. Brenneman, A. W., Caledonia, Mich. Brenneman, Pavid, Wakarusa, Ind. Brenneman, Pavid, Walarusa Ind. Brenneman, Lizzie, Rittman, Shio. Brulaker, A. M., Elkhart, Ind. Brubaker, Mrs. A. M., Elkhart, Ind. Brubaker, J. M., Eil-bart, Ind. Brutalier, Mrs. J. M. Elebart bud. Brui al er, Josephine Elkhalt, Ind. Christophel, Anna Namane, Ind. Christophel, Anna Geshan Ind. Christophel Parlara Novembre 16d. Christophel Miss Bertla Gesben, Ind.

Ex: () Christophel Elizabeth Nappanee, Ind. Christophel, Fanna Naistaree, Ind. Christophel, Enes W., New Paris, Ind. Christophel Enes W. New Paris, Inc. Christophel Brand Naponaree Ind. Christophel Brand Naponaree Brad. Christophel Jesse M. v. Christophel Jesse M. v. Christophel, J. W. Geshen, Ind. Christophel, J. W. Geshen, Ind. Christophel, Wiss Leebe, Geshen, Ind. Christophel, Wiss Leebe, Geshen, Ind. Christophel Martha Naponaree College. Christothal Phoda, New Paris, Ind Christophal Salome G. J. n. Fad Christophal Salab Na area Ind

Chri tophel, Paniel, New Paris, Ind.

fr.d Cottman, D. H., Flichart, Ind. Coffman, Pancel J. Etthact and Coffman, Mrs. Eli aboth 1"Shart, Ind Cottoan Farms F. Ell-hart, Ind. Cofte and I volta W. PP hart. Ind. Coffin in W. P. Philagra Ind. Culp Anos B. Wabarrsa Ind Culp. Mrs. Annie Wakarusa, Ind. Detraviller Annie Goshen, Ind.

Detraciler Flizabeth, Ell hart, Ind. Detriveller, Ira. Gother, Ind.

Christophel, Wester W.

Dettweiler, John B., Elkhart, Ind. Dettweiler, W. H. Elkhart, Ind. Dettweiler, Mrs. Noah, Elkhart, Ind. Dettweiler, R. W., Elkhart, Ind. Dettweiler, Mrs. R. W., Elkhart, Ind. Dettweiler, Miss Susie, Elkhart, Ind. Dettweiler, Mrs. W. W., Elkhart, Ind. Eby, Mrs. Noah, Wakarusa, Ind. Enders, John, Wakarusa, Ind. Erb. Mrs. I. G., Lititz, Pa. Eyman, Henry, Dutton, Mich. Freeland, A. M., Grand Rapids, Mich. Freeland, Marian, Middleville, Mich. Good Aaron W., Grand Rapids, Mich. Good, Miss Bernice, St. Johns, Mich. Good Daniel, Chicago, Ill. Good, Eli, St. Johns, Mich. Good, Mrs. Eli. St. Johns, Mich. Good, Eisie W., Wakarusa, Ind. Good, Isaac W., Wakarusa, Ind. Gordon, Mrs. Lizzie M., Elkhart, Ind. Grabill, Noah, Goshen, Ind. Gral ill, Sarah, Goshen, Ind. Henderich, Clivia Good, Goshen, Ind. Horning, Henry L., Elkhart, Ind. Horning, Minnie A., Elkhart, Ind. Johnson, Mrs. Clara, Elkhart, Ind. Klahn, Fred, Clarksville, Mich. Klaim, Mrs. Inez, Clarksville, Mich. Klehn, Myrtle O., Clarksville, Mich. Christophel, Mrs. Lance., Nov. Paris Kells, Mrs. A. C., Elkhart, Ind. Kuip, Lewis, Elkhart, Ind. Kulp, Mrs. Lewis, Elkhart, Ind. Leatherman, John, Grand Rapids, Mich. l chman, Amos C., Wakarusa, Ind. l chman, Mis Anna, Nappance, Ind. Lebnan, D. A., Nappance, Ind. Lebman, Mrs. D. A., Nappanee, Ind. Lebman, Da. id G., Goshen, Ind. Lehman, Caroline, Goshen, Ind. Lehman, Mrs. I. G., Elkhart, Ind. Lehman, Mrs. Julia, Goshen, Ind. Lehman, Luella, Goshen, Ind. New Paris. Lehman, Neah A., Nappanee, Ind. Lehman, Mrs. Peter Y., Goshen, Ind. Lehman, Reuben M., Elkhart, Ind. Lehman, Rhoda, Goshen, Ind. Lehman, Miss Susic, Goshen, Ind. Loucks, Jacob H., Wakarusa, Ind. Loucks, Mrs. Mary E., Wakarusa, Ind. Martin, Catherine, Elkhart, Ind. Martin, Catherine, Goshen, Ind. Martin, Pavid H., Elkhart, Ind. Martin, Edward F., Elkhart, Ind. Martin, J. O., Elkhart, Ind. Martin, Mrs. J. O., Elkhart, Ind.



Martin, Malinda, Goshen, Ind. Martin, Mary Jane, Caledonia, Mich. Staufter, Lylia Reed, Wakarusa, Ind. Martin, Salome, Elkhart, Ind. Martin, Simon P., Caledonia, Mich. Miller, Harrison, Elkhart, Ind. Miller, Susie W., Goshen, Ind. Miller, Sylvester J., Goshen, Ind. Moyer, Mrs. C. A., Elkhart, Ind. Moyer, Christian A., Goshen, Ind. Moyer, Lena, Elkhart, Ind. Moyer, M. A., Elkhart, Ind. Musser, Enos. Gosher, Ind. Musser, Ephraim, Goshen, Ind. Musser, Susanna, Goshen, ind Mumaw, Mrs. H. A., Elkhart, Ind. Nissley, Mrs. Christian S., Florin, Pa. Nunemaker, Mrs. Barbara, Wakarusa. Ind.

Overholt, Mrs. Anna, Goshen, Ind. Ramseyer, Mrs. D., Smithville, O. Reed, Amanda, Wakarusa, Ind. Reed, Charles, Napparce, I.d. Reed, Mrs. H. W., Mishawaka, Ind. Reed, Noah, Nappanee, Ind. Reed, Nora. Nappanee, Ind. Reist, Clara, Lititz, Pa Reist, John B., Mannhein, Pa. Schrock, John, Osceola, Ind. Scarce Scar, Makarusa, Ind.
Searer, Edgar, Wakarusa, Ind.
Searer, Jacob, Wakarusa, Ind.
Searer, Mrs. Jacob, Wakarusa, Ind.
Searer, Miss Rosa, M., Wakarusa, Ind.
Searer, Vernon, Wakarusa, Ind.
Shamory, Anna, Elkhart, Ind.
Shank, J. R., South English, In.
Shane, J. R., South English, In. -Shantz, Charife A., Elkhar, Ind. Shantz, Mrs. E. M., Eikhart, Ind. Shirk, Arthur, Osceola, Ind. Shirk, Della, Osceola, Ind. Shirk, Florence, Osceola, Ind. Shirk, Floyd, Osceola, Ind. Shirk, Sarah, Osceola, Ind Slocum, Mrs. Ralph, Mishawaka, Ind Smith, Hannah, Nappanee, Ind. Snavely, Mrs. Henry S., Lanaster

Junction, Pa.
Snyder, Mrs., Ontario.
Stauffer, Allen B., Wakarusa, Ind.
Stauffer, Esther M., Wakarusa, Ind.
Stauffer, Ezra N., Wakarusa, Ind.

Stauffer, Irone S., Wakarusa, Ind. Weaver, Erima, Goshen, Ind. Weaver, Frank M., Goshen, Ind. Wenger, Anna, Osceola, Ind. Weaver, Arthur L. South English, Ia. Werger, C. G., Caledonia, Mich. Weiner, Christian M., South Bend less Wenger, Eli N., Wakacusa, In i Wenger, Mrs. Eli N., Wakarusa, Ind. Worger, Ella, Elkhart, Ind. v. . has ". Elmer, Osceola, Ind Versen Barra E. Sart Ind Valueta Photogram Osciona, Ita-W. Cor. Piessy, Caledoria, Mich. Werger, Frank, Caledonia, Mich. Vienger, Hannah, Grand Rapids, Mich Verse : H. C., South English Ia. Victizes Henry G., Oscoola Ind. Wenger Mrs. Henry G., Oscoola, Ind. Wenger, Henry M., Osceola, Ind. Wenger bla M. Caledonia, Mich. Wenger, Isaac G. Caledonia, Mich. Wenger, Jacob G. Goshen, Ind. Wenger Jacob N . Elkhart, Ind. Wenger, Joseph Oscioli, Ind. Winger, Joseph II., South Et . - I. la. Winger, J. G. Rotham, O. W. neer, Kate Cal- ionia, Mich W. neer, Lizzie Calcionia Mich. Winder, Lizzie, Gushen, Ind. Wenger, '. oya Cale lonin, Mich. Wenger, Lavis a Caledonia, Mich. Wenger, Lienetia, Wakarusa Ind. Wenger, Mrs. Lydia, Elkhart, Ind. We are . Manchale has Goshen, Ind. Weiger, Mary, Ca's louin, Mich Wenger, Minna, Goshen, Ind. Noah, Gosten, Ind. 11. We have As an Acceptant Regules, Mich We have Sarother, Gestern, Ind. We have Sarother, Gestern, Ind. We have Sarother Sarother English, In We have Sarother West Susman, Oscoola, Ire West Susman, Oscoola, Ire West Z. G., Cale Ionia, Mid-West W. Mrs. Cheese, It base Irel.

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